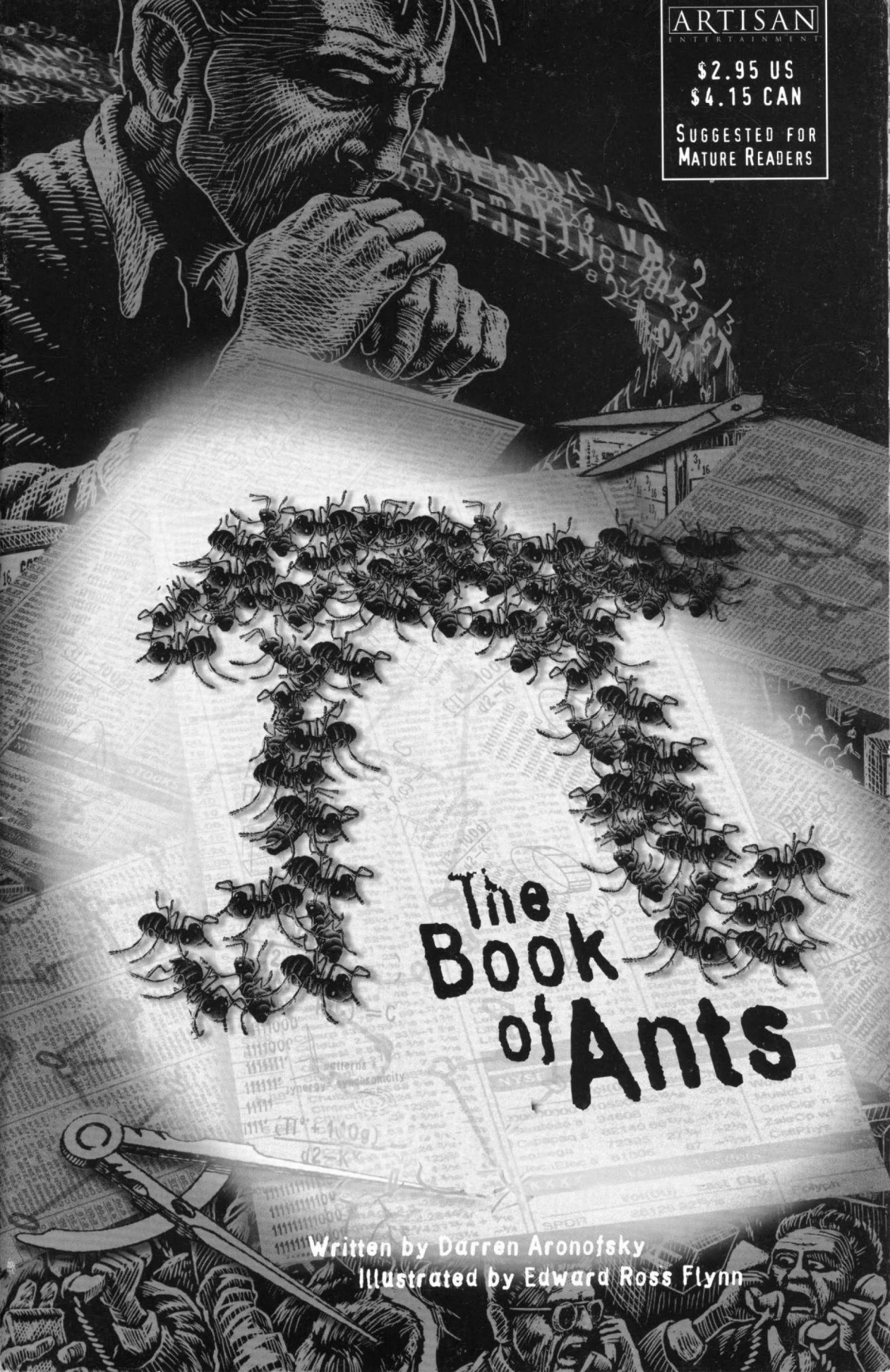


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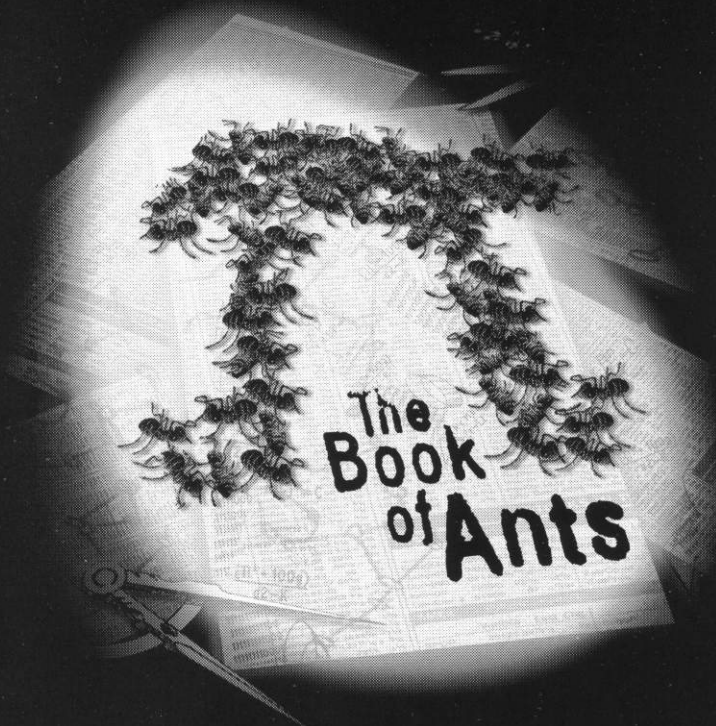
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SUGGESTED FOR  
MATURE READERS



# The Book of Ants

Written by Darren Aronofsky  
Illustrated by Edward Ross Flynn



**Art & Design by  
Edward Ross Flynn**

**Written by  
Darren Aronofsky**

**Based on the motion picture  $\pi$   
a film by Darren Aronofsky**

**Story by  
Darren Aronofsky, Sean Gullette  
& Eric Watson**

Thanks to the following people for all their help: Eric Watson, Sean Gullette & the cast of  $\pi$ , JoBabes, JD & the FCB Studio, Izzy, Artisan Entertainment, and Lady Morgan.

Based on the motion picture  $\pi$  ©1998 Protozoa Pictures, Inc.

Text: ©1998 Darren Aronofsky. Art: ©1998 Edward R. Flynn.

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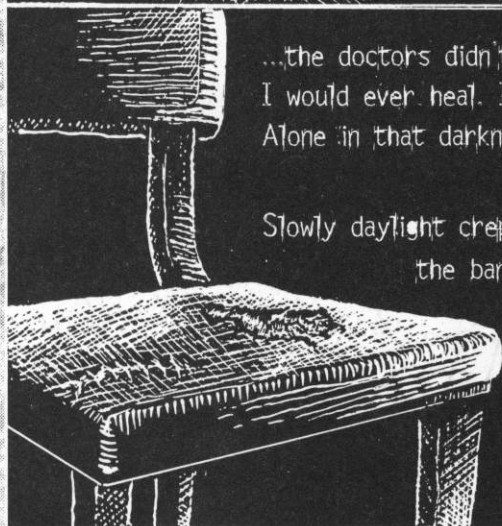
Published by Artisan Entertainment. Distributed by Dark Horse Comics. Printed in Canada.



9:18 Personal Note:

When I was a little boy,  
my mother told me not  
to stare into the sun...

...so once  
when I was six,  
I did.



...the doctors didn't know if  
I would ever heal. I was terrified.  
Alone in that darkness.

Slowly daylight crept in through  
the bandages and I could see.  
But something else had  
changed inside me...











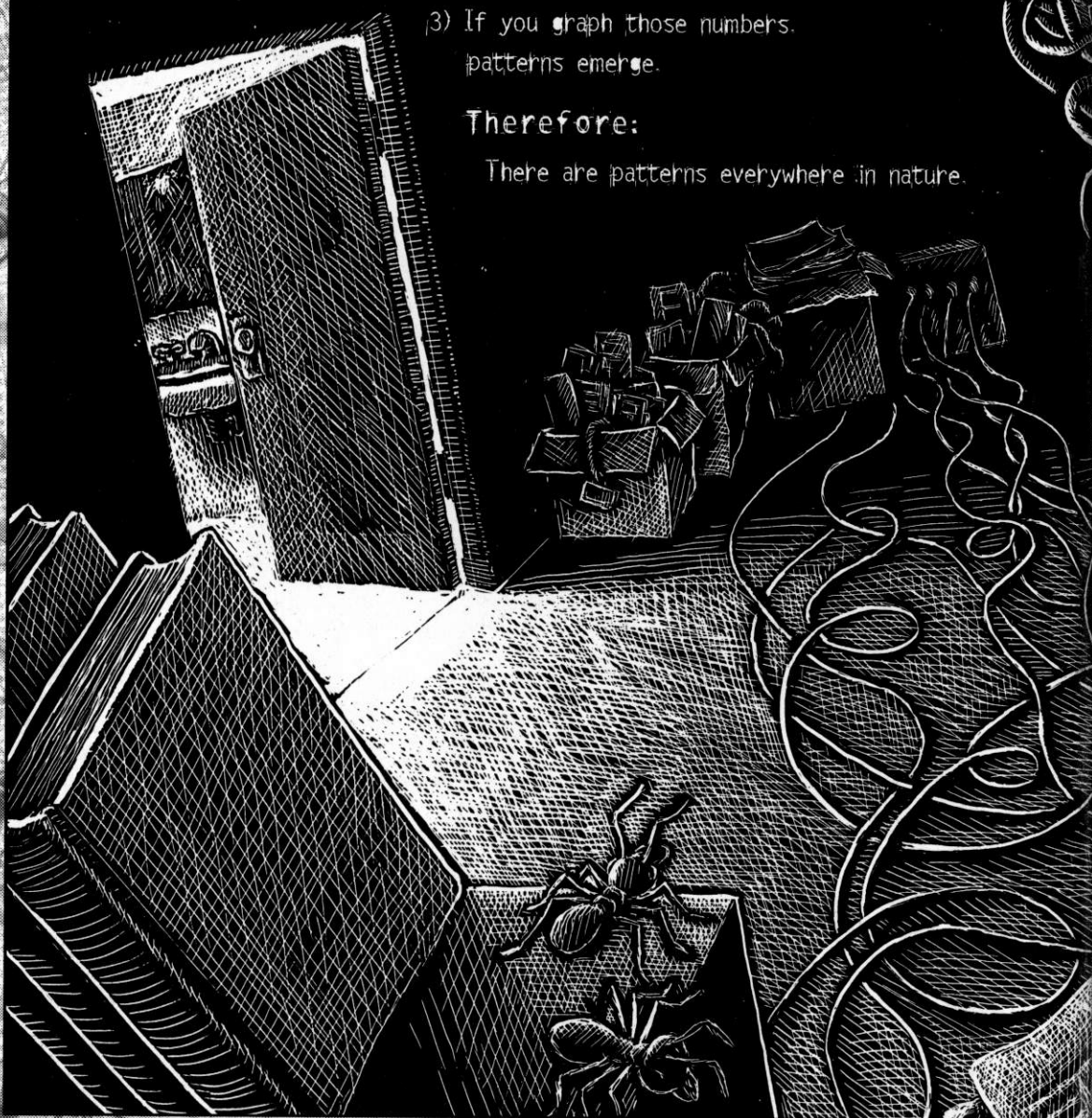
CLICK. BUZZZZ. POP. CLICK. CLICK. BUZZZ. CLICK. BUZZZZ. POP.

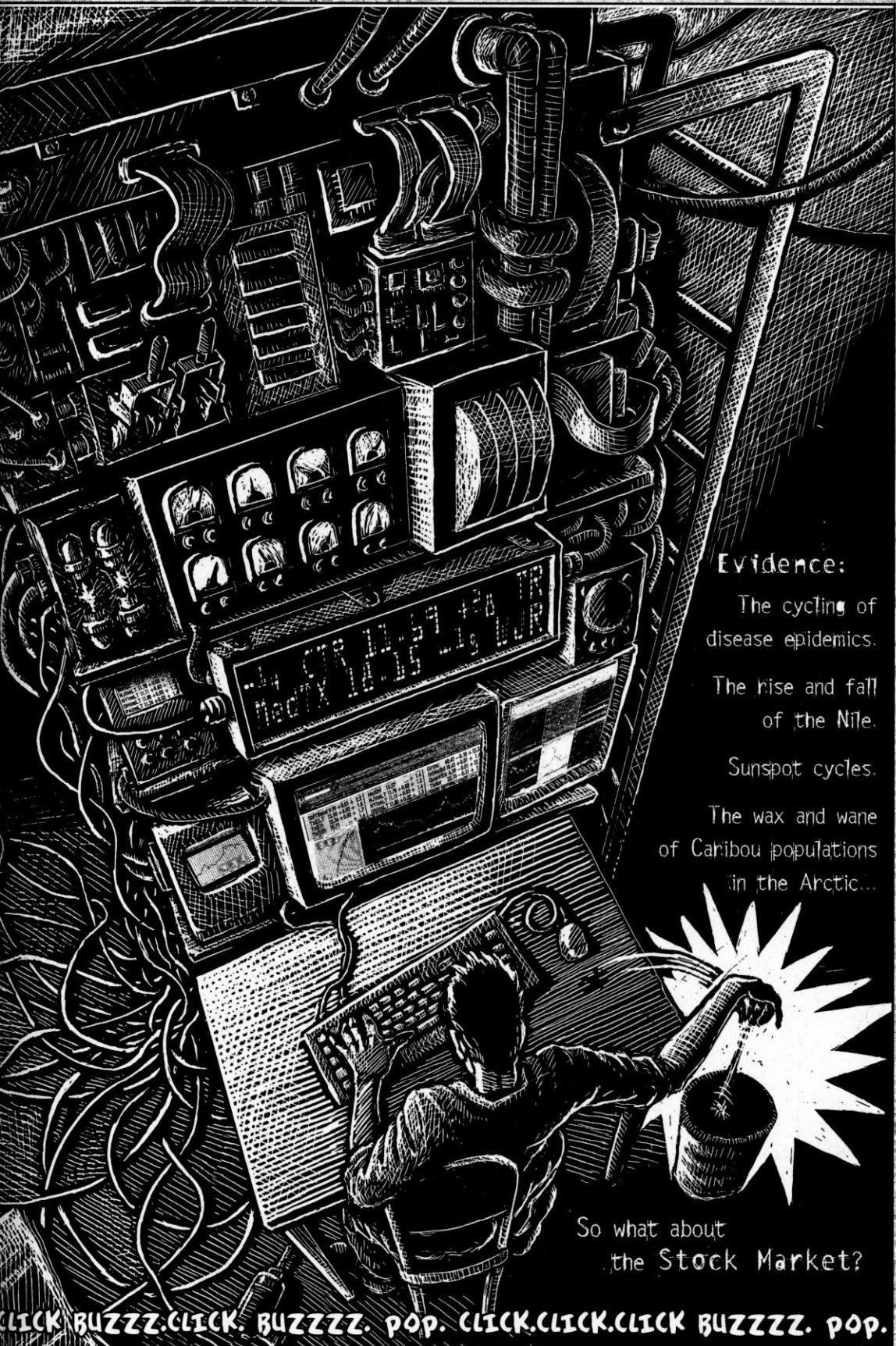
11:15 Restate my assumption:

- 1) Mathematics is the language of nature.
- 2) Everything around us can be represented and understood through numbers.
- 3) If you graph those numbers, patterns emerge.

Therefore:

There are patterns everywhere in nature.





### Evidence:

The cycling of  
disease epidemics.

The rise and fall  
of the Nile.

Sunspot cycles.

The wax and wane  
of Caribou populations  
in the Arctic...



So what about  
the Stock Market?

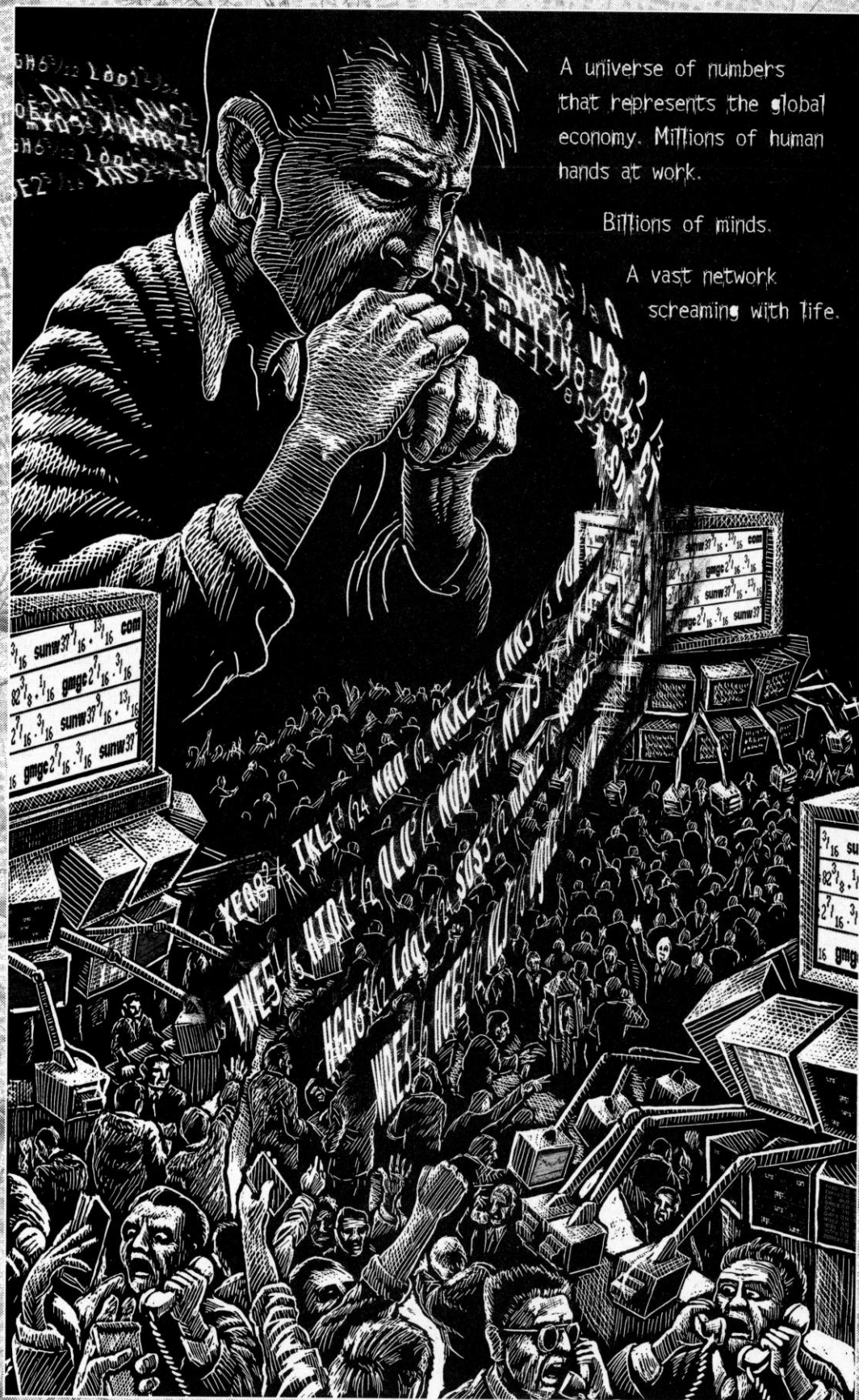
CLICK BUZZZ.CLICK. BUZZZZ. pop. CLICK.CLICK.CLICK BUZZZZ. pop.



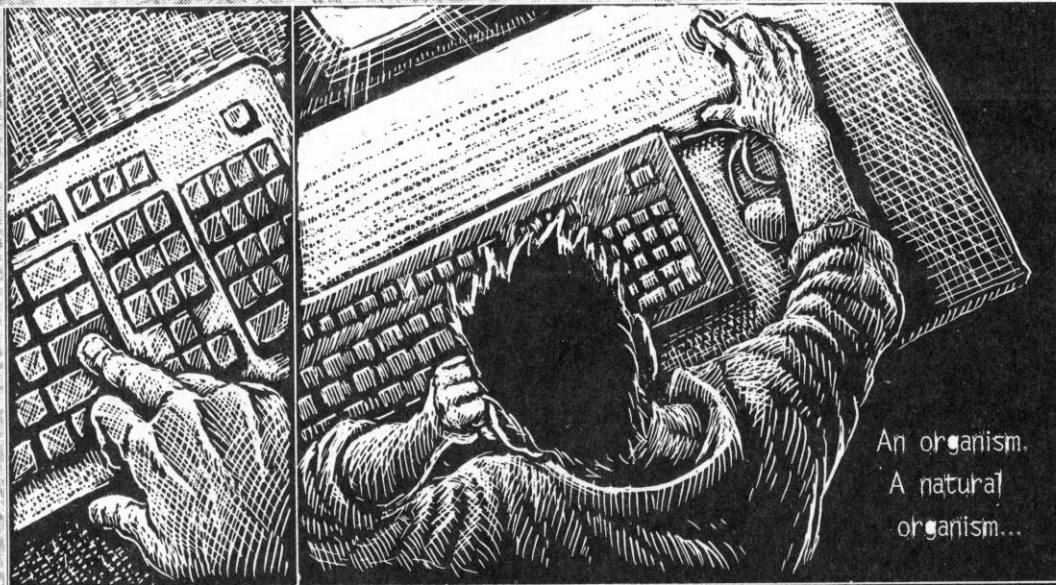
A universe of numbers  
that represents the global  
economy. Millions of human  
hands at work.

Billions of minds.

A vast network  
screaming with life.







An organism.  
A natural  
organism...



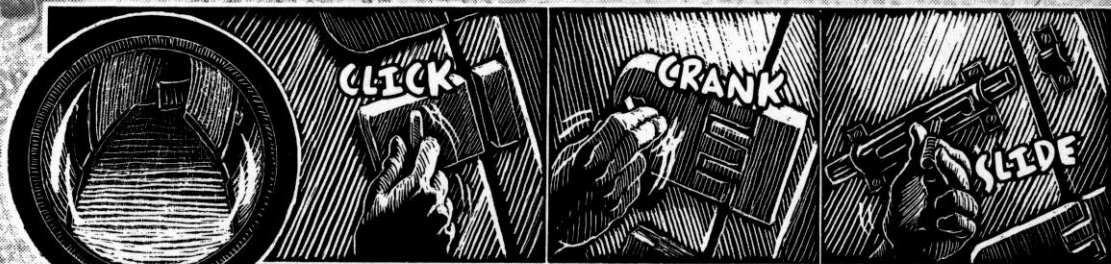
Somewhere  
in there...

Somewhere...



Coffee.  
Need coffee...













16:14 My Hypothesis:



Within the stock market  
there is a pattern  
as well...

Hiding there...  
Lurking...

...Right beneath the surface.





I Max Cohen will find this pattern...



CLICK  
CRICK



Max!











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AND THE  
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# "A BIZARRE AND INGENIOUSLY PARANOID THRILLER"

— JANET MASLIN, N.Y. TIMES

## "AN ARTISTIC AND EDGY PIECE OF MYSTIFICATION"

— KENNETH TURAN, LOS ANGELES TIMES

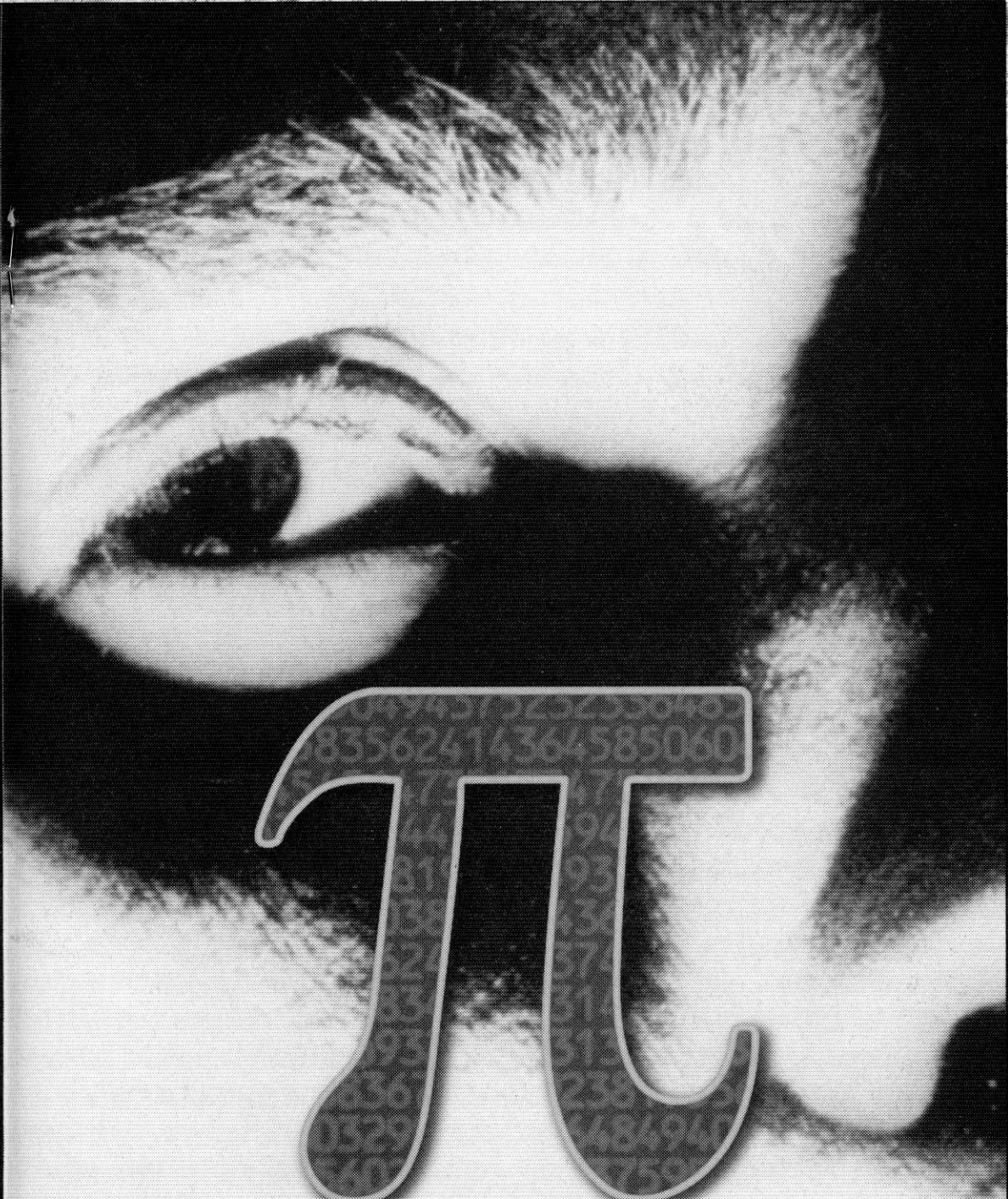
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$\pi$  IS A SCIENCE FICTION THRILLER ABOUT THE HAUNTING JOURNEY INTO THE GENIUS MIND OF RENEGADE MATHEMATICIAN MAXIMILIAN COHEN. FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS, MAX HAS BEEN ATTEMPTING TO DECODE THE NUMERICAL PATTERN BENEATH THE ULTIMATE SYSTEM OF ORDERED CHAOS — THE STOCK MARKET, PURSUED BY AN AGGRESSIVE WALL STREET FIRM AND A KABBALAH SECT INTENT ON UNLOCKING THE SECRETS BEHIND THEIR ANCIENT HOLY TEXTS, MAX RACES TO CRACK THE CODE.

---

LOOK FOR  $\pi$  THIS SUMMER AT A THEATRE NEAR YOU!





# π

*faith in chaos*

A Film By Darren Aronofsky

HARVEST FILM WORKS TRUTH & SOUL AND PLANTAIN FILMS PRESENT A DARREN ARONOFSKY FILM  
SEAN GULLETTE  $\pi$  MARK MARGOLIS BEN SHENKMAN SAMIA SHOAI B PAMELA HART AJAY NAIDU JOANNE GORDON AND STEPHEN PEARLMAN  
CASTING BY DENISE FITZGERALD ORIGINAL SCORE BY CLINT MANSELL MUSIC SUPERVISOR SIOUX ZIMMERMAN  
EDITED BY OREN SARCH PRODUCTION DESIGNER MATTHEW MARAFFI DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY MATTHEW LIBATIQUE  
CO-EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS TYLER BRODIE DAVID GODBOUT JONAH SMITH EXECUTIVE PRODUCER RANDY SIMON CO-PRODUCER SCOTT VOGEL  
PRODUCED BY ERIC WATSON WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY DARREN ARONOFSKY

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Max!?



You OK?

Uh...



Wait here a sec...



Samosas.  
My mom's specialty.  
They're good.  
Try them, OK?

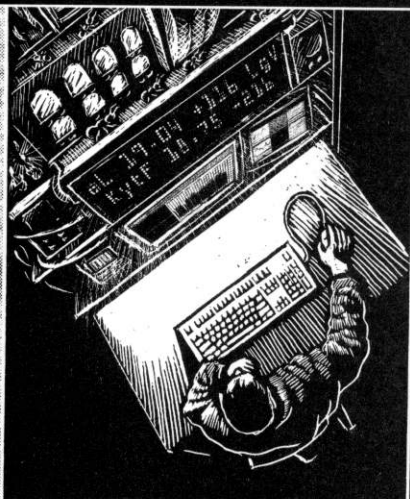
OK.

Good.  
Take care  
Max.





6:14 Progress:  
Running Algorithm 123-A. Tomorrow's picks printing as—



Hello?

Mr. Cohen!  
Marcy Dawson from Lancet-Percy.  
V.P. of Strategic Modeling.

Let's get  
together so—

I told you!  
I'm not  
interested in your  
money!

SLAM

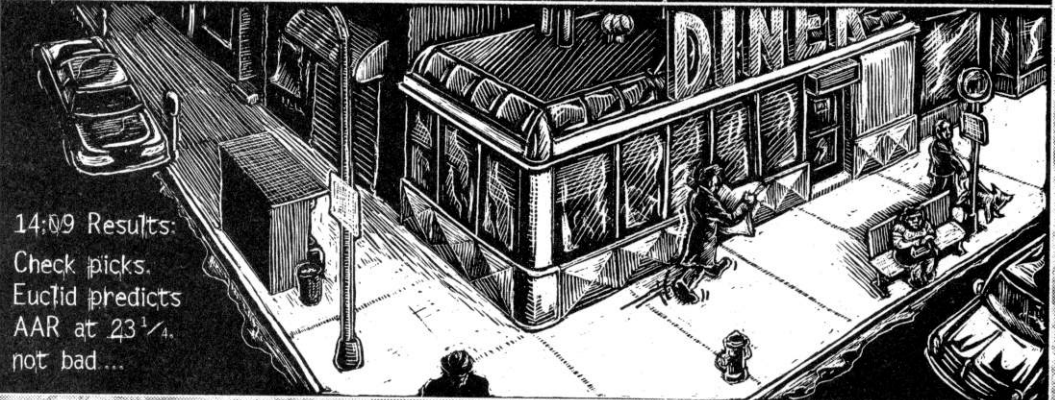
Damn parasites...



14:03

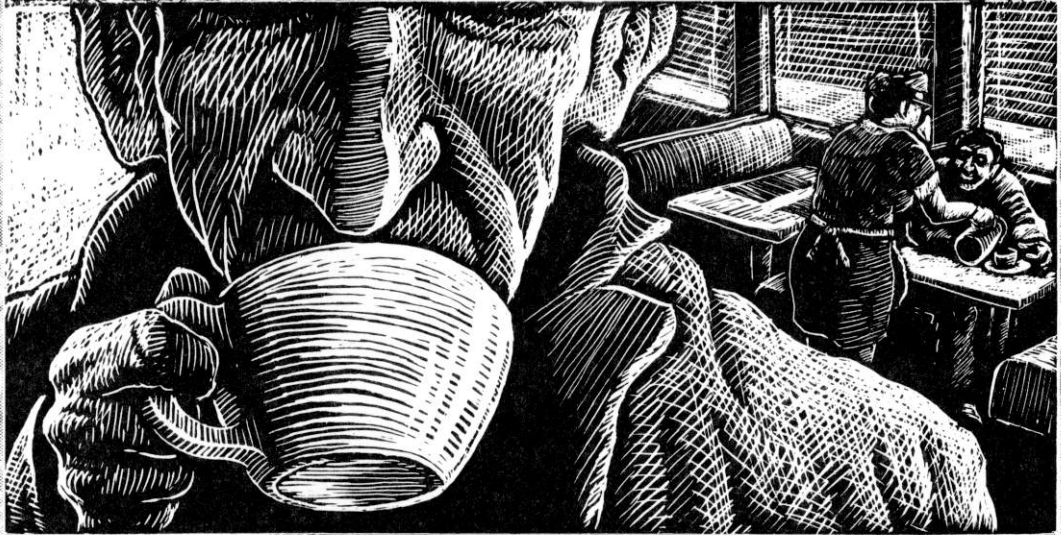
Personal Note:

Got to stay focused.  
Can't let Wall Street know  
how close I am. So close.

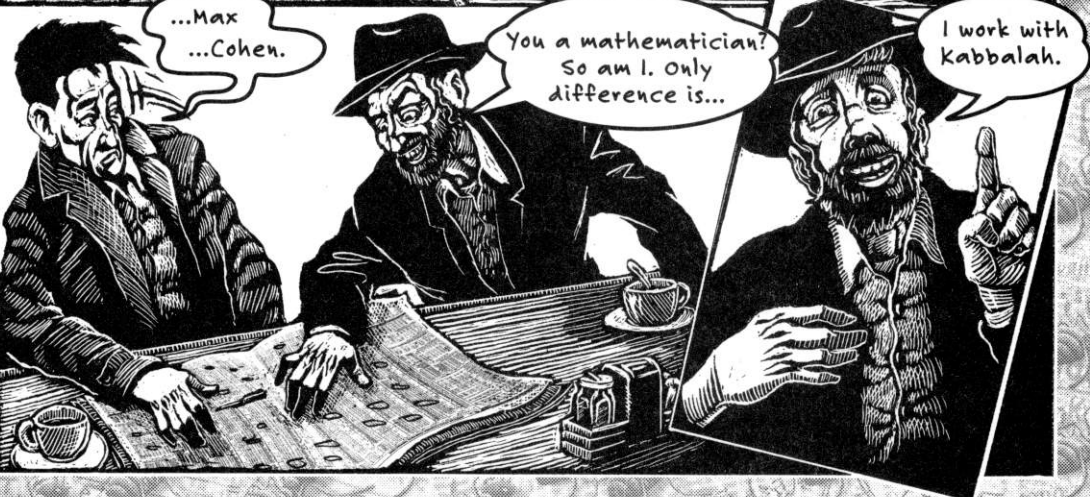


14:09 Results:  
Check picks.  
Euclid predicts  
AAR at  $23\frac{1}{4}$ .  
not bad...





ABR at 72. Close.  
But still not  
nailing anything.







"You see, the Ancient Jews used Hebrew as their numerical system. In fact, you can turn the entire Torah into a long string of numbers. Some say that it's a code sent to us from God. Check this out..."

The word for the Garden of Eden, Kedem. Koof equals 100.

Daled equals 4, and Mem is 40. 100 plus 4 plus 40 equals 144.

Now, the word for the Tree of Knowledge - in the Garden - Eitz Ha Chayim, equals 233.

BET ALEPH

כ א

KEDEM

קדמ

40 4 100 = 144

EITZ HA CHAYIM

עץ חיים

40 10 10 8 5 70 = 233

If you search for repeating--

Fibonacci...

Huh?

They're Fibonacci numbers.



Wow, you're right!  
That's the pattern  
you find everywhere in  
nature. Like the face  
of a sunflower.

You see,  
Max...

...there's  
math...

...everywhere...

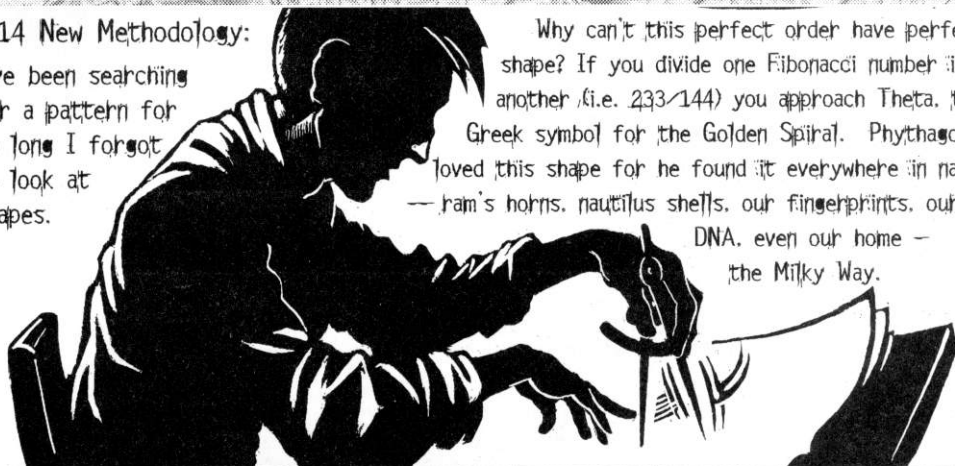
Max!  
Was it  
something  
I said?



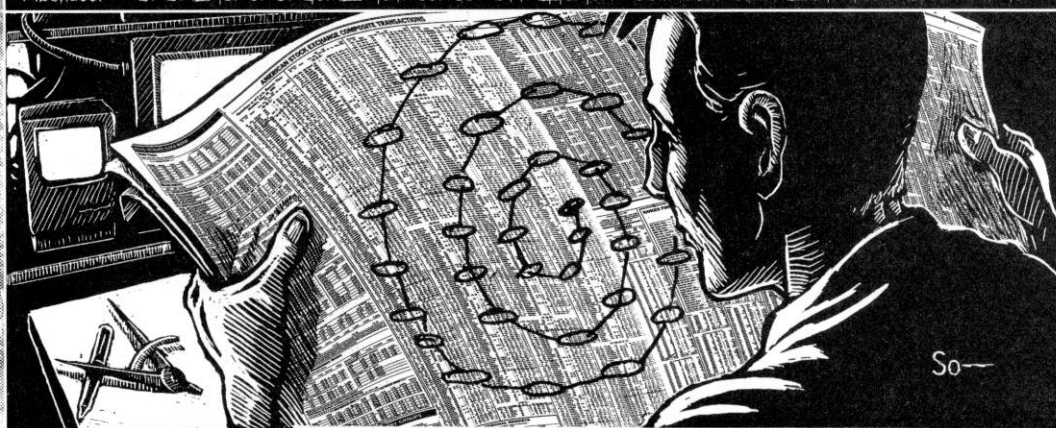
## 8:14 New Methodology:

I've been searching  
for a pattern for  
so long I forgot  
to look at  
shapes.

Why can't this perfect order have perfect  
shape? If you divide one Fibonacci number into  
another (i.e.  $233/144$ ) you approach Theta, the  
Greek symbol for the Golden Spiral. Pythagoras  
loved this shape for he found it everywhere in nature  
— ram's horns, nautilus shells, our fingerprints, our  
DNA, even our home —  
the Milky Way.



Fibonacci = 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, 144, 233, 377, 610, 987, 1597, 2584, 4181, 6765, 10946...



So—



—why not—



—the Stock Market?

Euclid will search  
and hopefully  
Euclid will find.



18:17 Euclid still processing...

4:29 Euclid still hunting. thinking...







KER PLUNG GGGGGG!!!

POP!

BUZZZ

SZZLE

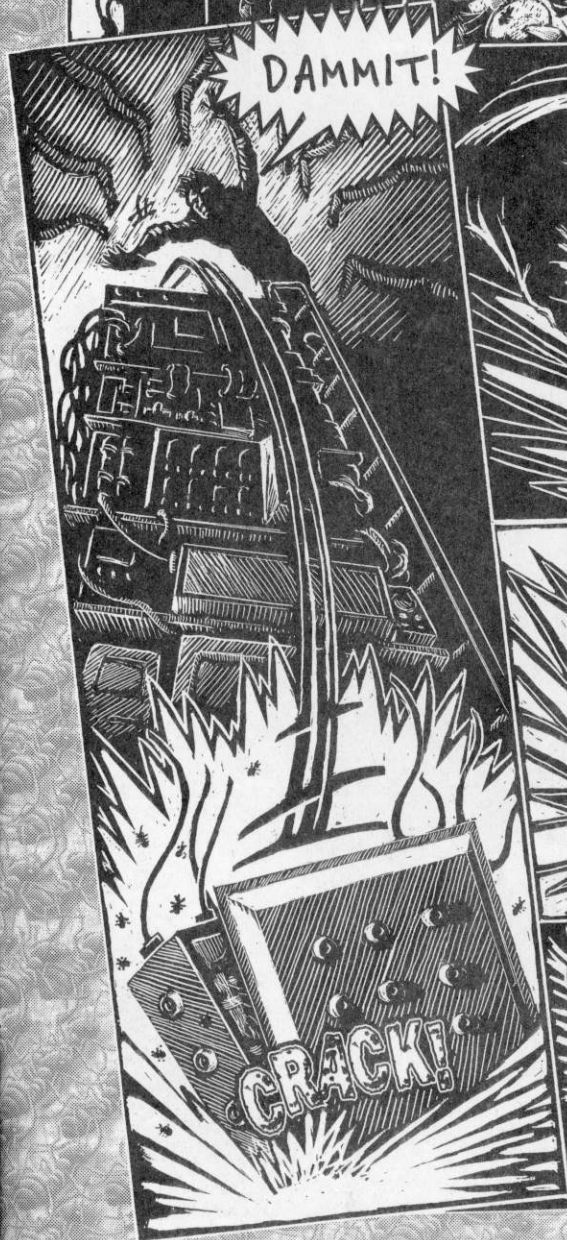
4:45 Results:  
Bullshit.

One pick before the crash.  
AAR at 6 1/2. That's  
absurd. AAR hasn't been  
beneath 20 in a decade.  
Then some gibberish, just  
some long number...







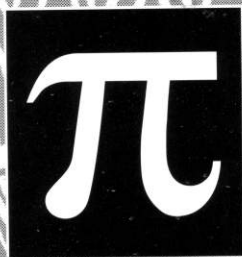




5:00 Perspnal Note: Nothing... There is no pattern... All chaos.

The End?





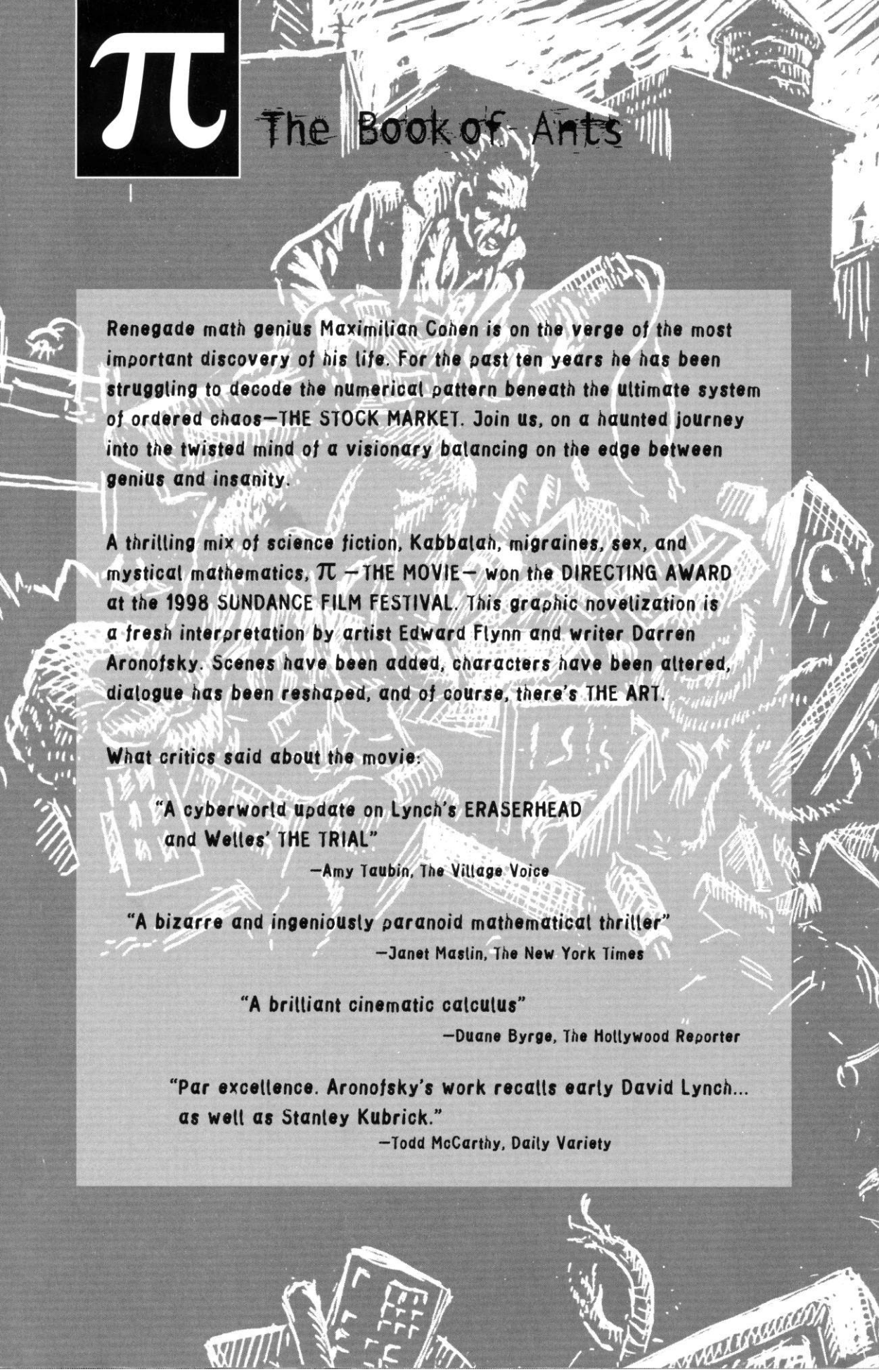
the motion picture  
is now at a theater  
near you.

about the Artists:

**EDWARD ROSS FLYNN** is a graphic designer and illustrator. His scratchboard illustrations have appeared in the pages of *The Village Voice*, *Art & Politics Magazine*, and a host of underground zines such as *Naked Aggression* and *Metal Fest Magazine*. He hooked up with  $\pi$  when he stumbled upon a usenet posting by Aronofsky searching for an artist. (You see, surfing the web isn't just a waste of time!) To see more of his work, check out his website: [www.growlingrooster.com](http://www.growlingrooster.com)

**DARREN ARONOFSKY** was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York and is a product of the public school system. He went on to study animation and live action filmmaking at Harvard University.  $\pi$ , the movie, is Aronofsky's first feature. The sci-fi thriller won the Directing Prize at the 1998 Sundance Film Festival and it will be released this summer. He has wanted to author a graphic novel since he stumbled on Alan Moore's *The Watchmen* in high school. Presently, Aronofsky is developing a new sci-fi feature film and a new graphic novel.

Check out the  $\pi$  website:  
[www.Pithemovie.com](http://www.Pithemovie.com)



$\pi$

## The Book of Ants

Renegade math genius Maximilian Cohen is on the verge of the most important discovery of his life. For the past ten years he has been struggling to decode the numerical pattern beneath the ultimate system of ordered chaos—THE STOCK MARKET. Join us, on a haunted journey into the twisted mind of a visionary balancing on the edge between genius and insanity.

A thrilling mix of science fiction, Kabbalah, migraines, sex, and mystical mathematics,  $\pi$  —THE MOVIE— won the DIRECTING AWARD at the 1998 SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL. This graphic novelization is a fresh interpretation by artist Edward Flynn and writer Darren Aronofsky. Scenes have been added, characters have been altered, dialogue has been reshaped, and of course, there's THE ART.

What critics said about the movie:

"A cyberworld update on Lynch's ERASERHEAD  
and Welles' THE TRIAL"

—Amy Taubin, *The Village Voice*

"A bizarre and ingeniously paranoid mathematical thriller"

—Janet Maslin, *The New York Times*

"A brilliant cinematic calculus"

—Duane Byrge, *The Hollywood Reporter*

"Par excellence. Aronofsky's work recalls early David Lynch...  
as well as Stanley Kubrick."

—Todd McCarthy, *Daily Variety*